DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 443 175 EA 030 496

TITLE	Benefits for Private School Students and Teachers from Federal Education Programs.
INSTITUTION	Department of Education, Washington, DC. Office of Nonpublic Education.
PUB DATE	2000-07-00
NOTE	7p.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Elementary Secondary Education; Federal Aid; *Federal Programs; Government School Relationship; *Private School Aid; *Private Schools; School Support; Teacher Welfare

ABSTRACT

This brochure describes how private-school students and teachers, including those in religiously affiliated schools, can receive federal education program benefits. It summarizes programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education that can aid students. A brief description of each program, all of which fall under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), is provided. These include Title I of the ESEA, which provides supplementary instruction by public-school teachers to students who are failing or in danger of failing to meet high academic standards and who live in areas of high poverty; the Eisenhower Professional Development Program, which provides professional-development opportunities to private-school teachers; the Reading Excellence Act, which offers benefits to students at private schools located in public-school districts; the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund, which provides various forms of technological support, equipment, and training through competitive grants; the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, which can include prevention programs; the Bilingual Act; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which requires every state to identify, locate, and evaluate children with disabilities; and the Innovative Education Program, which provides supplementary educational materials such as computers, computer software, library materials, and reference materials. (RJM)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 443 175

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)
☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

Benefits for Private School Students and Teachers from Federal Education Programs

July 2000

IC030446

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Non-Public Education

Private Schools and Federal Education Programs

Private school students and teachers, including those in religiously affiliated schools, can receive many federal education program benefits. The benefits are designed to meet the needs of the students being served and not of the private school itself.

Following are summaries of some programs from the U.S. Department of Education that provide benefits to private school students and their teachers. The U.S. Department of Education strongly supports the equitable participation of private school students in these federal education programs.

For more information on federal programs for private school students and teachers, state regulation of private schools, private school statistics, and publications and links of interest to the private school community, visit *www.ed.gov/offices/OIIA/NonPublic*.

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Education for Disadvantaged Students

Title I provides supplementary instruction by public school teachers to students who are failing or in danger of failing to meet high academic standards and who live in areas of high poverty. Instruction can also be provided through the use of computer-assisted instruction, after-school programs, tutoring, and other ways that will meet the needs of the participating students. The Supreme Court decision *Agostini v. Felton* in 1997 clarified that the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution does not prohibit providing these services in Title I space located in private schools.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Eisenhower Professional Development Program

The ***Eisenhower Professional Development Program*** provides professional development opportunities to private school teachers that are designed to meet the specific needs of private school students. Priority is given to professional development activities in math and science.

The Reading Excellence Act provides benefits to students at private schools located in public school districts participating in this program to assist in ensuring that every child learns to read well and independently by the end of the third grade.

Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Technology Education for All

The ***Technology Literacy Challenge Fund*** is provided to every state, which in turn competes grants to its public school districts. Students attending private schools located in public school districts that receive grant funds from the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund can participate in the program benefits, which include computer hardware and software, professional development, and parent training.

A competitive ***Technology Innovation Challenge Grant*** is provided to consortia made up of at least one high-poverty public school district and can include other public schools, private schools, public television, community organizations, and literacy associations. Students attending private schools located in public school attendance areas receiving assistance from the grant or private schools that are participating in a consortium receive benefits from the program.

Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, also a competitive grant program, provides professional development activities to private school teachers that are designed to meet the needs of private school students.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program

Private school students can receive equitable services from the public school district under the *state and local grant* program to meet their specific needs for a violence-free and drug-free environment. The services can include prevention programs, alternative activities, peer mediation, counseling services, and crisis intervention programs. Funds flow first to the state and then are subgranted to local public school districts.

Middle School Drug Prevention and School Safety Coordinator Initiative provides assistance in public middle schools that have significant drug, discipline, and violence problems. Private school students participate in services provided by that public school.

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, a coordinated grant from the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services, provides services to private school students located in public school districts receiving this competitive grant. Services can include linking parents to community services and providing information on healthy living.

Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Innovative Education Program

Title VI provides *innovative assistance*, including supplementary educational materials such as computers, computer software, library materials, and reference materials; programs to improve the higher-order thinking skills of disadvantaged students; and programs to serve gifted and talented students. The materials or services provided are those that will meet the specific needs of the private school students.

The ***Class-Size Reduction*** program is also part of Title VI and provides for the hiring of public school teachers to reduce class size. These funds cannot be used to reduce class size in private schools. However, public school districts also have the option of setting aside a portion of their Class-Size Reduction funding for professional development. In these cases, private school teachers also receive professional development that is designed to meet their needs.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—Bilingual Education

When a public school district receives a competitive grant under the Bilingual Education Program, students attending private schools located in that district can receive benefits from this grant. Benefits include bilingual instruction, parent programs, and professional development.

The ***Bilingual Education Professional Development Program*** also provides benefits to private school students by providing professional development activities for their teachers.

Districts with a threshold number or proportion of recent immigrants qualify for the Emergency Immigrant Assistance Act funds, which generally flow by formula from the states. When a district participates in this program, immigrant students attending private schools located in this district receive educational materials and other benefits.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act—Part B

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that every state have in effect policies and procedures to ensure that all children with disabilities residing in the state are identified, located, and evaluated. This includes children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disability, and who are in need of special education and related services. Children attending private schools who are found to have a disability may receive services that are funded with the federal dollars that fund special education. If the state allows, they may also receive services through state and local funding sources.

Telecommunications Act — E-Rate

Private schools are eligible to apply for discounts for connectivity expenses to be linked to telecommunications, including the Internet. Discounts vary depending on the level of poverty at the private school. Discounts are funded through the Universal Service Fund. The E-rate program is administered by the Schools and Libraries Division of the Federal Communications Commission.

For further information, visit the Office of Non-Public Education on the Web at www.ed.gov/offices/OIIA/NonPublic.

Contact us with your questions and concerns by:

Mail: Office of Non-Public Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-3600

Phone: 202-401-1365

Fax: 202-401-1368

E-mail: OIIANon-PublicEducation@ed.gov

BEST COPY AVAILABLE